Position about production of natural gas was as under:—

(Billion Cubic Metres)

	Onshore	Offshore
1985-86 . .	2.95	5.18
1986-87 . .	3.15	6.70
1987-88 . .	3.20	8.23

(c) During 1987-88 the estimated requirement of crude oil was about 48.8 Million Tonnes.

Production of gas during the same year was 11.42 billion cubic metres which exceeded its requirement.

(d) Total income before tax of ONGC during last three years was Rs. 6530.58 crores.

Award of tender for south basin gas field development project near Bombay

1326. SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ONGC invited global tenders for its Bharat Petroleum Gas process complex of the South Basin Gas Field Development Project near Bombay;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the bid made by Hyundai Heavy Industries was technically suitable and financially also it was the lowest;

(c) whether the award of the project was made to Snamprogetti of Italy incurring an extra expenditure of about Rs. 14 crores; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The lowest evaluated offer on cash basis was made by M/s. Hyundai Heavy Industries, South Korea. The contract was however, awarded to M/s. Snam Progetti, Italy as their offer was found to be cheaper after taking into account the mixed credit offered by the firm alongwith their offer.

LPG agencies in Uttar Pradesh

1327. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of LPG agencies in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have received requests from various quarters for allotting more agencies to the State; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to accede to their demands?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) As on the 1st April, 1988 there were 336 LPG distributorships in operation in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Upto the Marketing Plan 1987-88, the Oil Industry has planned to set up 104 more LPG distributorships in Uttar Pradesh which are at various stages of processing.

Finding of crude oil off Goa coast

1328. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a rich find of crude oil off Goa coast;

(b) if so, what is its exact location;

(c) what is the estimated quantum of crude oil in the area; and

(d) by when ONGC propose to start drilling the wells there?